

The Sequestration Prevention Act of 2012 Section-by-Section

Overview

This bill completely repeals the \$1.2 trillion in spending cuts ordered in the second round of the Budget Control Act. It replaces the savings with spending cuts to specific areas of government and increases defense spending so that it equals 4% of GDP by 2022. On the whole, we expect the bill to reduce the deficit by \$60 billion over ten years.

Title I – Repeal the Sequester (Cost of \$1.2 trillion over ten years)

Fully repeals Section 251A of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (the "sequester" of Round 2 of the Budget Control Act).

Title II – Repeal Obamacare (Cost of \$109 billion over ten years)

Fully repeals Obamacare, using language from DeMint's S. 192, the "Repealing the Job-Killing Health Care Law Act."

Title III – Block Grant Food Stamps (Saves \$285 billion over ten years)

Fully repeals the current food stamp program and replaces it with a block grant program. The program will be divided among the states according to their share of legal residents whose income falls below the federal poverty level. To qualify for benefits, individuals must be drug tested and comply with state-determined work requirements. Limitations on the use of Food Stamp benefits would be retained in the new block grant program.

Authorizations of appropriations for the newly created Food Stamp block grant program are provided at \$44.4 billion in 2014. Funding authorizations for subsequent years are provided with an inflation adjustment. The authorization level for 2022 is \$54.1 billion.

<u>Title IV – Block Grant Medicaid (Saves \$950 billion over ten years)</u>

Fully repeals the current Medicaid program and replaces it with a block grant program. The program will be divided among the states according to their share of legal residents whose income falls below the federal poverty level.

Authorizations of appropriations for the newly created Medicaid block grant program are provided at \$304 billion in 2014. Funding authorizations for subsequent years are provided with an inflation adjustment. The authorization level for 2022 is \$402 billion.

<u>Title V – Reduction of Federal Workforce (Saves \$144 billion over ten years)</u>

Requires the President to reduce the number of federal employees by 10% through attrition

<u>Title VI – Prohibition of Funding for Climate Change and Global Warming (Saves \$83 billion over ten years)</u> CRS recently reported that in 2011, \$8.3 billion was spent on climate change related activities. Since 2008, the total is \$68.4 billion). This bill prohibits the expenditure of any federal funds for climate change related activities.

Title VII – Medical Malpractice Reform (Saves \$73.6 billion over ten years)

Enacts comprehensive medical malpractice reform using language from House-passed H.R.5. Reform would cap non-economic damages at \$250,000 and punitive damages at \$250,000 or twice economic damages, whichever is greater.

Title VII – Discretionary Spending Cap Adjustments & Non-Defense Discretionary Spending Cut (Saves \$950 billion over ten years)

Establishes new discretionary spending caps under Round 1 of the Budget Control Act. These caps incorporate a return in non-defense discretionary spending to FY2006 levels, which the bill holds in place through 2017 and then allows to increase with inflation. In sum, the caps are higher than current law because they account for the conversion of Medicaid and the Food Stamp program into discretionary programs subject to Congressional appropriation. This section also provides for the increase in discretionary defense funding. In 2022, the spending cap for 050 defense discretionary is \$925.3 billion, or 4% of GDP.